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LAUNCESTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1959



Health Area Office,
Launceston,
Cornwall

WILLIAM PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

LAUNCESTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Members of the Public Health, Housing and Sewerage Committee:

Cllr. E.C.Chudleigh - Chairman.

Cllr. Rev.W.L.Ackroyd
" Miss J.K.Braddon
" F.Broad
" G.H.Doidge
" G.Fishleigh
" H.E.Foote
" L.Hooper
" W.B.Kent

Cllr.R.T.Kneebone
" F.C.Neale
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" F.Sandercock
" W.R.Sandercock
" A.L.Stephens
" J.W.Stephens
" W.J.Uglov
" K.J.Uglov

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Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

W.PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B.,D.P.H.

Also holds appointments of :

Medical Officer of Health: Launceston Borough Council
Bude/Stratton Urban District Council
Stratton Rural District Council
Camelford Rural District Council

Assistant County Medical Officer, Area No. 6 Cornwall County Council

School Medical Officer - Cornwall County Council

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

T.A.JUDD, M.A.P.H.I.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS:

Area (in acres)	73,187
Population	6,430
No. of separate dwellings occupied	2,319
Rateable value 1959	£32,042
Product of ld. rate	£122.2.5.635

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 estimated population</u>
Legitimate	102	58	44	16.17
Illegitimate	2	2	-	
<u>Stillbirths</u>	5	1	4	48.07 per 1,000 total births
<u>Deaths</u> (all causes)	72	37	35	11.20

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:

Puerperal and post abortive	}	N I L
Sepsis		
Other Puerperal Causes		

Infant Mortality (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)

3	1	2	Rate 28.84
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	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	5	5	10
Measles (all ages)		N I L	
Whooping Cough (all ages)		N I L	
Diarrhoea (under 2)		N I L	

Health Area Office,
LAUNCESTON.

To: The Chairman and Councillors of the
Launceston Rural District.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the
Medical Officer of Health for the year 1959.

The number of births was increased, while the number of deaths was fewer than in 1958. The favourable balance of births over deaths continued, and the total mid-year population showed an increase of twenty over the figure for the previous year. Heart disease in all its forms was again at the head of the list of causes of death, followed once more by cancer and vascular lesions of the nervous system, in that order. Three infant deaths and five stillbirths were recorded.

There was a small epidemic of measles during the year, but, apart from this, the incidence of notifiable infectious disease was negligible. There were no cases of diphtheria, and no cases of poliomyelitis, vaccination against the latter disease continuing during the year.

During the year, progress continued in the provision of main water supplies, either in fact or in project. The Minister of Housing and Local Government made the East Cornwall Water Board Order, 1959, setting up the East Cornwall Water Board, of which the Rural District is now a constituent member.

The introduction of standard grants by the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, stimulated further interest in the modernisation of older houses. This interest continues and increases, at the present time, as properties, which were not eligible for improvement grants under the Housing Act, 1949 (now known as discretionary grants), are eligible for the new standard grants. Many of these older properties are thus being provided with modern amenities. It must be realised, however, that this new form of grant involves a considerable increase in the work of your Public Health Inspector, a fact which may not be apparent from his brief report of the application for the grant, and the equally succinct report of the completion of each scheme which you subsequently receive.

The position with regard to meat inspection continued as before.

I wish to record my thanks to Mr. T. A. Judd, the Council's Public Health Inspector for his valuable assistance in all aspects of our work together and in the preparation of this report. The Council's other departments have continued their willing help. I am grateful to the General Medical Practitioners for their co-operation.

The interest of the Council and, in particular, of the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee is once more gratefully acknowledged.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM PATERSON.

Medical Officer of Health

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (in acres) 73,187. The district is essentially agricultural, the only industry not connected with agriculture being the New Consols tin and wolfram mine at Lockett and another smaller mineral working in Altarmun Parish.

Population - The Registrar General has estimated the population for the mid-year 1959 to be 6,430, an increase of 20 in the population for the previous year. The "natural increase" in the population is the excess of births over deaths. In 1959 there were 32 more births than deaths.

Deaths - The total number of deaths assigned to the district for the year was 72 compared with 78 in 1958. The crude death rate based on the mid-year population was 11.20 compared with 12.16 in the previous year. The following table has been compiled for comparison with previous years:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Recorded Rate</u>
1955	79	46	33	12.24
1956	69	35	34	10.71
1957	66	29	37	10.28
1958	73	36	42	12.16
1959	72	37	35	11.20

In order to compare the mortality in the district with the mortality for England and Wales, it is necessary to make a correction to allow for the difference in age and sex distribution of the two populations. This is done by applying to the crude death rate of the District an "Area Comparability Factor" which has been estimated by the Registrar General as .83 for the District.

The Standardised Death Rate, therefore, is 9.356 which may be compared with that of 11.6 for England and Wales.

Births - The number of live births assigned to this District was 104 compared with 86 in 1958. The rate per thousand of the population was 16.17. When the Registrar General's area Comparability Factor for births 1.12 is applied to this figure, the Standardised Birth Rate of 18.11 for this District compares with 16.5 for England and Wales.

Stillbirths - The number of stillbirths during 1959 was 5.

Illegitimate Births - There were 2 illegitimate births assigned to the District during the year. Shown as a proportion of the total number of live births, this represents 1.92 per cent.

Infant Mortality - The number of infants who died before reaching their first birthday was 3, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 28.04. This figure compares with 22.0 for England and Wales per thousand related live births.

The causes of death in these cases were as follows :-

	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>
1)	F	6 days	Congenital Heart Disease
2)	F	3 weeks	Cardiac Failure due to Congenital Heart Disease. Prematurity.
3)	M	4 months	Respiratory Failure due to virus pneumonia

While the general infant mortality rate has shown a considerable improvement since the early part of this century, the mortality of infants within the first week of life has not improved in comparable degree. The fall in post-neonatal mortality has been due in large measure to improved infant care and hygiene, control of infectious disease, advances in treatment of respiratory disease and improved social conditions generally. Late neonatal deaths (i.e. deaths from 1 - 4 weeks of age) have tended to improve similarly, but deaths in the first week of life are closely related to conditions present before and during birth, and this mortality has remained high. Stillbirths are causally closely connected with deaths in the first week of life and are now linked with them in one mortality group, to which the name perinatal mortality is applied.

To effect an improvement in the perinatal mortality rate is not an easy matter, as knowledge of many conditions associated with it, e.g. toxæmia of pregnancy and congenital abnormalities, is very incomplete. For the more immediate aspect of the problem, essentials are the continuation of a high standard of antenatal care, with the provision of antenatal beds, continued improvement in obstetrics, with adequate beds, both emergency and other, and skilled attention for the premature and weakly infant. From the long term point of view, continued research into toxæmia of pregnancy, the causation of developmental abnormalities and the causes of premature labour is required. A perinatal mortality enquiry, carried out in 1950 by the National Birthday Trust Fund, the report of which is not yet available, may give useful information.

NOTE: VITAL STATISTICS

It is important that too much weight should not be attached to small variations in these rates from one year to the other, particularly where relatively small populations are involved - attention should rather be paid to the trend of these rates over a period of years.

MORTALITY TABLE

Classified in accordance with 36 headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classifications of Disease, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1955.

	<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infection	-	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	1	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	-	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	3	7
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1
16.	Diabetes	-	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	3	8
18.	Coronary disease, angina	8	2	10
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	1	5	6
20.	Other heart disease	5	8	13
21.	Other circulatory diseases	3	2	5
22.	Influenza	-	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	1	-	1
24.	Bronchitis	1	-	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
31.	Congenital malformations	-	2	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	4	8
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	-	1	1
34.	All other accidents	-	1	1
35.	Suicide	1	1	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
		37	35	72

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

General Medical Services

General medical services under Part IV of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are provided by medical practitioners resident in the district and in adjoining districts, all of whom undertake maternity medical services.

County Council Services

- I Health Department. The County Council is the local health authority for the purposes of Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and provides the following services in the district :-
 - (a) Midwifery and Home Nursing. Nurse-midwives are provided to attend general nursing and midwifery cases in the home.
 - (b) Health Visiting. The nurse midwives act also as health visitors and, with special training in the care of the mother and young child, are available to give advice on health matters in the home or at the clinic. They act also as school nurses.
 - (c) Infant Welfare Centre. A fortnightly Infant Welfare Clinic is held at the Health Clinic, Launceston.
 - (d) Dental Clinic. Priority dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children is available at the Dental Clinic at the Health Clinic, Launceston.
 - (e) Vaccination and Immunisation. Facilities for vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough are provided at the Infant Welfare Clinic or by the supply of materials to the family doctor. Regular sessions are held for poliomyelitis vaccination.
 - (f) Home Help Service. Home helps are employed to provide domestic help for households in certain circumstances, a charge being made for this service according to the means of the person concerned.
 - (g) Ambulance Service. A service of ambulances for the conveying of sick, accident and emergency cases is provided. For sitting cases, utilicon sitting case vehicles are used. When appropriate, some such cases are carried by the Hospital Car Service, a voluntary organisation. Day-to-day administration of the service is carried out from the Ambulance Control, Bodmin.

- (h) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care. A full-time tuberculosis health visitor is provided for the care and after-care of tuberculosis persons. District nurses are available to assist in the treatment of such persons when required by the Chest Physician or family doctor. Certain special investigations are carried out in other types of illness by district health visitors, while health education is carried out by the County's Medical and Nursing staff.
- (i) Mental Health. The County Council has certain responsibilities in connection with the ascertainment of mental ill-health and mental deficiency, with the provision of statutory supervision, etc. for mental defectives living in the community, and with the provision of after-care following treatment for mental illness. The Duly Authorised Officer for the district works from the Health Area Office, Launceston.

III Education Department. As local education authority, the County Council is responsible for the School Health Service, which provides the following :-

Periodic Medical Inspection of pupils
Cleanliness Surveys of pupils
Dental Inspection and treatment of pupils
Ascertainment of handicapped pupils in need of special education
Treatment Clinic, Health Clinic, Launceston :-

Dental Clinic by appointment.

Child Guidance, by arrangement at Plymouth Child Guidance Clinic.

III Welfare Department. This service is concerned with the welfare of the aged, and with that of various categories of handicapped persons. It is concerned also with the provision of temporary accommodation in certain circumstances for persons in urgent need thereof. The Welfare Officer for the district works from the Health Area Office, Launceston.

Hospital Services. The South Western Regional Hospital Board is the hospital authority for the area.

Launceston Hospital provides in-patient and out-patient facilities in the district. Patients are referred also to hospitals in Plymouth and elsewhere. Cases of infectious disease are admitted to the Scott Isolation Hospital, Plymouth, and tuberculosis patients to Didworthy or Tehidy Sanatoria. Mental hospital accommodation is provided by St. Lawrence's Hospital and Lenival House, Bodmin, and Moorfields Hospital, Ivybridge, Devon.

An Orthopaedic Clinic is held weekly at the Health Clinic, Launceston, and a Physiotherapy Clinic at Tavistock Hospital. The Chest Clinic is held at Launceston Hospital.

An Ophthalmic Clinic for school and pre-school children is held periodically at the Launceston Health Clinic. A Specialist Ante-natal clinic is held at the Launceston Health Clinic each week.

Laboratory Facilities. These are provided by the Public Health Laboratories at Plymouth and Truro to which specimens for bacteriological examination are submitted.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLIES

During the year several new schemes for supplying water to Bathpool, Middlewood, Berrio Bridge, Lewannick and Polypkunt were in the course of preparation. Other schemes on which construction was either completed or commenced are as follows :-

During the year a further 30 domestic consumers connected to the Central Area Scheme making a total of over 250 domestic and agricultural consumers.

Altarnun Water Scheme - Tredaule extension - This extension to the Scheme originally completed in 1955 taking water to the hamlet of Tredaule, at a cost of approximately £2,000, was completed and 12 domestic consumers and seven agricultural consumers were supplied with piped water for the first time.

Tutwell Scheme - For a number of years the quality and quantity of water supplied from the two village wells has caused concern and during the year a new scheme was developed from an existing well which provides two standpipes for the village and four consumers have connected to the area.

Lawhitton Water Scheme - The borehole which was sunk originally some years ago to supply water to the Council houses was brought into use as a village scheme and 18 domestic consumers were connected.

Towards the end of the year an extension to the Warbstow water scheme, which was originally put into operation in 1954, was commenced. This extension provides for taking water to the village of Trelash and to parts of the Parishes of Tremaine and Tresmeer.

The summer of 1959 was exceptionally dry and many private wells failed. It is gratifying to record that no water shortages were experienced in connection with any of the Council boreholes or other schemes; this is something for which the Council may feel proud.

SEWERAGE

The position in this respect remained as in the previous year. In anticipation of future schemes, however, the Council engaged additional staff to assist in the work of preparation, etc.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

No rodent operator is employed by the Council and there are no known major infestations. There would appear to be fewer rats in the district than was the case some few years ago probably due to the fact that, with the decline in the rabbit population, the buzzards and other predatory animals are turning their attention to rodents. The Council, at a nominal charge, supply Warfarin bait in ready-for-use packets.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The number licensed under the Public Health Act, 1936 is nine and all are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Collection is by Contract and all villages and hamlets together with properties along the route taken by the lorry in travelling between one village and another receive a monthly collection. During the summer months there is a collection once a fortnight from the catering establishments and the Old Tree Maternity Home. During the year the Council introduced a Litter collection scheme by placing bins at various places adjoining the A.30 (Trunk road). Financial assistance towards the provision of the bins and their emptying is received from the County Council.

HOUSING

Total number of Council Houses	97
Council houses completed during 1959	Nil
Private enterprise houses completed during 1959	3
Private enterprise houses completed since 1945	51
1. Inspection of dwellings during the year :-	
(a) No. of dwellings inspected for defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	81
(b) Inspections for this purpose	195
2. Number of dwellings found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious as to be unfit for human habitation	1
3. Dwelling houses (exclusive of those under preceding sub-headings) not in all respects suitably fit for habitation	59
4. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices	46
5. Action under Statutory Power during the year :-	
(a) Proceedings under Secs. 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
(i) Dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :-	
(i) Dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	8
(ii) Dwelling houses rendered fit by Owners	7
(iii) Dwelling houses rendered fit by Local Authority	Nil
6. Proceedings under Secs. 16, 17 and 26 of the Housing Act, 1957:-	
(i) Dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(ii) Dwelling houses where undertaking not to re-let were accepted from Owner	1

PROPOSED CLEARANCE AREAS

The Council has received a report recommending the following areas in the village of Venterdon to be declared Clearance Areas :-

No. 1 Area	...	5 houses
No. 2 Area	...	2 houses
No. 3 Area	...	3 houses

Plans have been prepared to develop a site at Venterdon to build dwellings to re-house the occupants of these houses, but the proposal is being held up pending a water and sewerage scheme for the village.

OVERCROWDING

Four houses were known to be overcrowded at the end of the year. During the year two new cases were reported and two cases abated.

THE RENT ACT 1957

No applications were received for Certificate of Disrepair. Since the coming into force of the Act only one Certificate has been applied for, which was later withdrawn upon the Owner carrying out the necessary repairs.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959

With the coming into force of the House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 the old name of Improvement Grant has been altered to Discretionary Grant and a new form of grant known as Standard Grant has also been introduced. Standard grants are paid towards the cost of providing a house with the standard amenities such as a bath, wash-basin, hot water supply, water closet and larder. They are intended to cover smaller schemes than those envisaged by Discretionary grants.

Upon the passing of the Act the Council decided to withhold the offering of Discretionary grants for the time being and to concentrate upon Standard grants.

Improvement grants, Section 20 Housing Act, 1949 (now known as Discretionary grants)

1.	Total dwellings improved at 31.12.59	46
2.	Complete schemes with tenders submitted during 1959	8
3.	Applications approved and grants offered during 1959	8
4.	Informal applications received but withdrawn after official inspection	11
5.	Schemes completed during 1959	5

6.	Total value of grants paid during 1959	£1,043.
7.	Total value of all grants paid	£10,570.
8.	Five schemes not completed at 31.12.59 on which grant will be paid	£2,253.

The 51 dwellings (five not completed at the end of 1959) in respect of which the Council will have paid £12,823.0.0d. in grants are as follows :-

1.	Farmhouses owner-occupied	9 or 17.7%
2.	Farmhouses tenant occupied	5 or 9.8%
3.	Agricultural workers' cottages	27 or 52.9%
4.	Non-agricultural houses owner-occupied	5 or 9.8%
5.	Non-agricultural houses tenant occupied	5 or 9.8%

Houses directly concerned with agriculture have received 80% of the grants and 72.5% of the grants are in respect of houses which are tenant occupied.

Standard Grants, House Purchase and Housing Act 1959

These grants were only available during the last six months of the year.

1.	Schemes submitted to the Council	20
2.	Schemes approved by the Council	20
3.	Maximum amount of grant offered	£2,710
4.	Schemes completed and grant paid	1

During the year 118 visits or interviews were made in respect of Discretionary and Standard grants.

MILK

Three supplementary licences for the retail of Pasteurised milk and one for the retail of Tuberculin Tested milk have been issued.

ICE CREAM

There is one Ice Cream Factory in the district where conditions are satisfactory. There are 14 retailers of pre-packed Ice Cream

FOOD PREMISES

There are in the district :-

Catering establishments	...	...	13
Butchers' Shops	...	...	6
Grocers' Shops	...	...	27
Bakeries	...	...	Nil
Number of visits in connection with the Food Hygiene Regulations	...	...	61
Number of informal notices served	...	...	7

KNACKER'S YARD

There is one licensed Knacker's Yard which is not licensed for the slaughter of horses. It is well managed and conditions are satisfactory.

MEAT INSPECTION

The position regarding meat inspection still continues to be most unsatisfactory.

Six slaughterhouses were licensed and the total number of animals slaughtered during the year was :-

Cattle	1,741
Calves	4,290
Sheep	36,897
Pigs	3,569
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	46,497
	<hr/>
Total Units killed	114,781
Units required by Launceston Rural	9,615
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Units for export	105,166
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This export meat is sufficient to supply the needs of a population of 70,000.

The figure for cattle are down on last year but the total number of animals slaughtered is up by 13,000. The reason for the figure for cattle being down is because one of the export slaughterhouses which dealt principally in beef was closed for about seven months during the year. The export beef from this slaughterhouse is expected to rise during 1960.

FACTORIES ACT 1937 - 1948

Total number of Factories with Power	19
Total number of Factories without Power	2
Outworkers	1

CLASSIFICATION OF FACTORIES

Agricultural Food stuffs	3
Motor Vehicle repairs	6
Engineers and agricultural implements	3
General smithing	1
Concrete block making	1
Joinery	2

Ice Cream manufacture	1
Saw Mills	1
Poultry appliances	2
Scrap merchant	1
 Total visits	 24
Formal notices	Nil
Informal notices	3

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937 are attached as an appendix to this report in accordance with circular 1/60 of the Ministry of Health

WATER SAMPLES AND FARM WATER SCHEMES

Number of samples taken for analysis	41
Satisfactory	26
Unsatisfactory	15

During the year 15 Farm Water Schemes were referred to your Public Health Department by the Ministry of Agriculture. The source of supply in the case of 13 was considered satisfactory, in the other two cases the source was considered unsatisfactory.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES

The infectious diseases which are statutorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health are the following :- smallpox, cholera, diphtheria, membranous croup, erysipelas, scarlet fever, typhus fever, typhoid fever, paratyphoid fever, relapsing fever, plague, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis, malaria, dysentery, puerperal pyrexia, ophthalmia neonatorum, acute primary pneumonia, acute influenzal pneumonia, whooping cough, measles, acute encephalitis, meningococcal infection and food poisoning.

The monthly incidence of infectious disease is shown in Table III.

Smallpox. No case was notified during the year in which 90 primary vaccinations and 8 revaccinations were carried out.

Diphtheria. No cases of this disease were notified during 1959. 96 children received a complete course of primary immunisation during the year, the triple antigen against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus being used in almost all instances.

Whooping Cough. No case of this disease was notified during the year.

Measles. A small epidemic of measles occurred during 1959, 50 cases being notified. The peak of the incidence was reached during July and August, out of character for this disease, which usually has a winter incidence. The infection appears to have been mild, and no deaths occurred.

Food Poisoning. No cases of food poisoning were notified during 1959.

Poliomyelitis. No case of this infection was notified during 1959. During the year 450 persons in all the eligible age groups and priority classes completed the primary course of two injections. By the end of the year, 1323 persons had had the primary course of vaccination since the introduction of the scheme in 1956, and, of these, 84 had also received their third injection.

Tuberculosis.

	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>	
	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non. Pul.</u>	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non. Pul.</u>
Cases on Register 31.12.58	9	-	14	1
No. of cases notified during year	2	-	1	-
Cases restored	-	-	-	-
Inward Transfers	-	-	-	-
Cases Removed	2	-	1	-
<hr/>				
Total on Register 31.12.59	9	-	14	1

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

The Regional Hospital Board is responsible for treatment of Tuberculosis patients and the County Council for the prevention of spread of the disease and aftercare of the patients.

Out-patients and contacts are seen by the Chest Physician (Dr. Mellor) at the Chest Clinic at Launceston Hospital. The County Council Tuberculosis Health Visitor attends the Clinic, follows up the patients in their homes, traces contacts and sources of infection and thus acting as a most valuable essential "Liaison officer" between the curative and preventive services, bridges a most alarming administrative gap.

All susceptible contacts of known cases are offered B.C.G. Vaccination and most avail themselves of this method of protection.

The scheme for B.C.G. Vaccination of susceptible school-leavers was continued by the County Council during the year again with a good response.

OTHER DISEASES

Cancer of the Lung. During 1959, one male death from cancer of the lung was recorded out of a total of 5 male and 5 female cancer deaths. Since 1949, there have been 58 male and 68 female deaths from all forms of cancer. Of these, five male and two female deaths have been due to cancer of the lung.

TABLE I

TUBERCULOSIS

Age and Sex Distribution of cases and deaths - 1959

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Pul.</u>		<u>Other</u>		<u>Pul.</u>		<u>Other</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE II

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>POPULATION</u> (Estimated)	<u>DISEASES</u>		<u>DEATHS</u>			
		<u>Number</u>	<u>Crude Rate</u>	<u>Under 1 year</u>		<u>All ages</u>	
				<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1955	6,450	87	13.49	1	11.5	79	12.24
1956	6,440	95	14.75	1	10.52	69	10.71
1957	6,420	91	14.17	1	10.99	66	10.28
1958	6,410	86	13.41	1	11.62	78	12.16
1959	6,430	104	16.17	3	28.84	72	11.20

TABLE III

Monthly Incidence of Notifiable Diseases
(other than Tuberculosis)

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Measles	-	-	-	5	4	3	16	21	1	-	-	-	50
Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	-	1	-	5	4	3	16	21	1	-	-	-	51

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act, 1937.

Part 1 of the Act

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities. (i.e. Factories without power)	2	4	2	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (i.e. Factories with power)	19	20	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' Premises) (i.e. Electrical Stations, Institutions and Sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction)	-	-	-	-
Total	21	24	3	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (Section 1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (Section 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (Section 3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (Section 4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of Floors (Section 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	3	-	1	-

PART VIII of the Act

Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(I)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
Making Wearing Apparel	1	-	-	-	-	-

